

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Applicant amends claim 84 and adds new claim 101 as

follows:

84. (Amended) A composition [able to amplify] useful in the detection of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* nucleic acid, comprising:

a) one or more oligonucleotide from about 10 to about 100 nucleotide bases in length which will, under nucleic acid amplification conditions, bind to or extend through a region of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* nucleic acid consisting of a nucleotide base sequence, said region selected from the group consisting of:

[a] i) SEQ ID NO: 22,

[b] ii) SEQ ID NO: 3,

[c] iii) SEQ ID NO: 2,

[d] iv) SEQ ID NO: 4,

[e] v) SEQ ID NO: 5, and

[f] vi) the nucleotide sequences perfectly

complementary to these sequences, and

b) a nucleic acid hybridization assay probe.

101. (New) A composition useful in the detection of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* comprising at least one oligonucleotide, or composition containing an oligonucleotide, selected from the group consisting of:

a) a nucleic acid hybridization assay probe comprising an oligonucleotide which will hybridize to at least 10 contiguous bases of a nucleotide base sequence region of a target *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* nucleic acid, said region selected from the group consisting SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 8, and the sequences perfectly complementary thereto;

b) an oligonucleotide able to bind to or extend through a region of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* nucleic acid, said region consisting of a nucleotide base sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, and the sequences perfectly complementary to these sequences,

c) a kit comprising the oligonucleotide of step b), and

d) a specifically detectable nucleic acid hybrid formed under nucleic acid hybridization conditions between the